Explorer Classroom Event Guide: Grades 3-8
Exploring a Pyramid | Pearce Paul Creasman

Explorer Classroom is for everyone! This guide is designed for your students or family to get the most out of Explorer Classroom. After the event, please share your thoughts, activities, and learnings with us on Twitter **@NatGeoEducation** using **#ExplorerClassroom**.

January 21, 2020, 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM ET

BEFORE YOU TUNE IN

SIGN UP
Register **here**!

BEFORE THE EVENT

If you plan to share this event with students virtually or encourage their participation independently, check out our tips for kids working Independently (p.7) in the *Family Guide to Using National Geographic Education Resources* and our virtual tips throughout this guide.

This event is recommended for learners in grades 3-8. As a group, build your background knowledge prior to the event with one of these activities or any combination of the linked resources that best fits your needs:

- ❏ **Read** the biography for archaeologist Pearce Paul Creasman to familiarize yourself and your students with his work.
- ❏ Archaeology is the study of the human past using material remains. **Read** more about Pearce Paul's profession here *(available in multiple reading levels)*.
- ❏ Using MapMaker, **locate** Northern Sudan, where the ancient site of Nuri is located on the East bank of the Nile River. This royal burial site includes over 20 ancient pyramids sprawling over 170 acres in the Sudanese desert.
- ❏ **Dive** beneath the pyramids! Explore the video, images, and maps in this article to learn more about Pearce Paul's underwater excavation experience at Nuri.
- ❏ **Brainstorm** questions for the Explorer that either focus on the person themself, or their work. Help your learner revise their questions making sure they 1) only ask one thing; 2) have a clear purpose; and 3) are specific. You may need to work together through a few drafts to arrive at a solid final question. Review questions together and select two favorites to ask on-air (if you registered) or via **Twitter @NatGeoEducation** using **#ExplorerClassroom**.

DURING THE EVENT

As you listen, have students take notes using one of the graphic organizers listed below.

- ❏ *Two-Column Chart*: Print copies or ask your students to draw their own two-column chart. Have your students write things they are learning in one column and in the other, write questions about that information, or draw something related to it.
- ❏ *Cause-and-Effect Diagram*: Have your students use this organizer to identify what happened (effect) and why it happened (cause).

AFTER THE EVENT

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Debriefing as a class or a family is an important part of the learning journey. Discussion helps learners process ideas, reflect, and make new connections. Use these questions to help provide context to the event. The questions are open-ended and designed to facilitate a discussion about the event you just participated in together. You know your students best! Modify these questions as necessary to spark conversation.

1. What was one new thing you learned during the Explorer Classroom event you didn't know before? What is one question you still have?
2. Why is exploration important?
3. What is something you would like to explore? Why?
4. What skills, tools, or knowledge would you need to explore?

REFLECTION ACTIVITY

We encourage students to reflect on what they've learned from the Explorer during the event by completing one of the following tasks and sharing their work with the class, a friend, or family member. Share their great work with us on Twitter—@NatGeoEducation #Explorer Classroom—so the Explorer can see how much they've learned!

- Draw a picture illustrating one thing you learned from the Explorer.
- Act out what you learned about the Explorer and their work. Consider making your own Explorer Classroom presentation at home like they did.
- Record yourself talking about what you learned from the Explorer and how you could help. Share it with a friend and invite them to watch the recording of the show.
- Write a short news article to tell others what the Explorer is working on and why that work is important.

Virtual Tip: During class video time (e.g. Zoom or Google Hangouts) students can share their drawings or their acting or article in a virtual show-and-tell.

EXTENSION RESOURCES

Try one of these resources and keep your students exploring with National Geographic Education.

- *Join in the Explorer's Mission:* What are you passionate about? Take some time to talk to your friends about your passion and help spread the word, like the Pearce Paul does with underwater archaeology!
- For more on diving under a pyramid check out our podcast, "Overheard at National Geographic." Listen here.
- Learn about mummification, one of the oldest and most complex burial practices in history, with this *Road to the Afterlife* infographic.
- To watch past Explorer Classroom events, check out this YouTube playlist.

Looking for more ways to engage your students online, in-person, or at home? Find more on our Learn Anywhere page or in our Resource Library.